

# ST PAUL'S POST



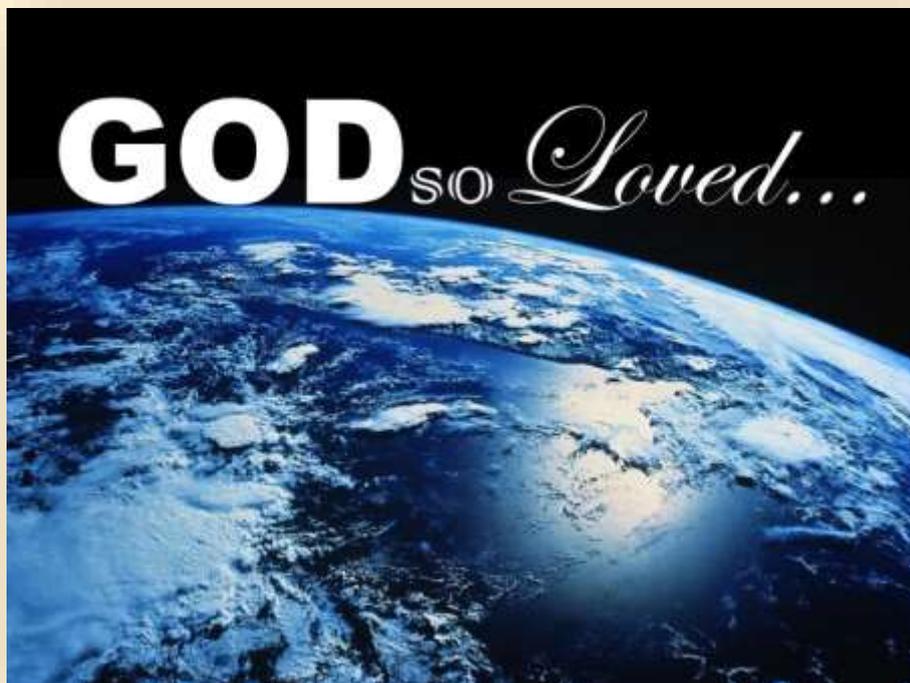
St Paul's Province Weekly Newsletter: 159

27 January 2020



*Our  
birthday  
girl this  
week is:*

Edith Culliton 30 January



In paragraph 85 of '[LAUDATO SI](#)' Pope Francis quotes the Canadian Bishops as saying that God has written a special book, '*whose letters are the multitude of created things present in the universe*'.

The Pope is saying that God was already in the world from the beginning of its existence, long before the coming of Jesus into our world at the first Christmas. He believes that Creation itself is the first love letter from our Parent-God. The Incarnation of God did not only happen in Bethlehem 2000 years ago. The Incarnation actually began 14 billion years ago with a moment we now call '*The Big Bang*'. The human incarnation of God in Jesus is comparatively recent, but before that, in the original incarnation of the amazing story of evolution, God had already begun the mysterious process of becoming flesh by first becoming creation itself. The first '*Happy Christmas*', you could say, was uttered in the '*flaring forth of the Big Bang*'.

('An Astonishing Secret' - D O'Leary p.93)

Sent in by Pat Carney



# PRAY TOGETHER

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS

### Our Sisters:

*Nora Horan*  
*Regina Boland*  
*Maura Fanning*

*Maire Murphy*  
*Rose Mulligan*  
*Rita McStay*

*Mary Sloan*  
*Vivian Whelan*

### Relatives/friends of Sisters:

Marguerita's brother, **Pat**;  
Anna Hainey's brother, **Danny**;  
Eily May's brothers, **Tade & Jack**,  
and her sister, **Mary Philomena White**;  
Lorraine's Mum, **Mary**;  
Francis' niece-in-law, **Val McCartan**;  
Kay Doran's niece-in-law, **Kerry**;  
Mary Curtin's niece, **Breed**;  
**Michelle Reid**, Rita McStay's niece-in-law;  
**Michael Clyne**, Brigid Murphy's brother-in-law;

**Elaine Plunkett**, Keighley Associate;  
Carmel Comerford's sister, **Clare**;  
Barbara Sexton's brother, **Denis**, and his  
wife, **Breda**, both of whom are ill, and  
also their sister-in-law, **Angela Sexton**,  
who is very seriously ill;  
**Mary McLean**, Margaret Travers' sister;  
**Anna Kearns**, grandniece of Sr Annie  
McCambridge;  
**Maria Somers**, wife of Paschal;  
**Fr David Tuohy, SJ**, who is seriously ill;  
**Dominic**, brother to Ann Cotter (Chile).

Sister Annette's aunt, **Sister Mary of Lourdes Kelly**, Notre Dame Convent, Indiana, has died aged 109 years. May she reap the reward of her long, dedicated life.

Please pray for **Elaine Barker** who died suddenly in Cyprus. Elaine taught in St Joseph's College, Bradford and was a valued and inspirational member of the Volunteering Project, preparing those who wished to embark on a Latin American experience with our Sisters in Peru. In these latter years Elaine has resided in Cyprus and will be buried there on February 3rd. May she rest in peace.

## Bereavements





\* Sister Annette Kelly requests prayers, please, for her brother, **Seamus**, and his daughter, **Mary**, who are both recovering from surgery.

\* Clare Dawson asks for your prayers for the **people of Villa El Salvador, Sector 9**, where Kathy Kinane lived and where Patricia Yanez continues to minister.

On Thursday last a truck carrying liquid gas crashed into a group of houses causing a huge explosion. As a result of the accident 11 people have died and many more are in hospital with very severe burns. About 100 families have lost their homes and are living in tents provided by Caritas. The solidarity of the people is marvellous, providing food, clothing, water, donating blood etc. But I know that your prayers will also be appreciated.

Abrazos y Gracias.

\* Please continue to pray for **Fr John Sherrington**, who is declining again. Despite the best efforts of St Joseph's Care Home John is struggling to eat and drink and as a consequence is growing weaker.

If you feel you would like to encourage John by sending a card or letter, I'm sure it would be a great help. The address is:

*St Joseph's Care Home, Westmorland Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7QA.*

Many Thanks. In the Passion, **John Kearns**

## And the walls came tumbling down!



Savio

First there was the wall of Jericho which came tumbling down

After a great shout by the people of Israel.

Then there was the Berlin wall

Brought down with great cheers

Freeing the people of East Germany

when the cold war was over.

Nearer home the wall surrounding Drumalis  
Was knocked down by BT workmen  
Destroying trees and an electric cable  
and plunging Larne in darkness

At home in Middleton

A speeding car knocked down the wall

Behind the Grotto,

Taking the statue down and the trees.

Fortunately the week before our gardener  
had taken down a conifer

that was leaning precariously towards the  
chapel.

We were out last Tuesday when it happened

But our good neighbour Linda got all the  
details

And reported the incident to the police.

Nobody was hurt.

We watched the playback on CCTV

There must have been a mighty crash!

# Celebrating M M Joseph in Marino



Marian Langan, Annette, Brigid Mary,  
Miriam & Mary Kirby

On January 11th we came together to celebrate our foundress, Elizabeth Prout, on the anniversary of her death.

We began by singing Liam Lawton's hymn **TELL THE WORLD.**

Having reflected together on Eileen Fucito's letter, we gave thanks for the many gifts we have received and prayed for the needs of our world.

We then prayed:

**Mother Mary Joseph,  
Woman wrapped in suffering ....**

...and watched the DVD on the history of the Congregation.

By then we were all ready for the afternoon tea provided by the wonderful carers.

*Clare Dawson*



Catherine K, Vivian,  
Maria Gratiae, Marian & Annette



Mary Kirby, Clare Dawson, Sheila  
Clare Looby, Catherine Lee & Anne Mary



Tea arrives: Sheila, Clare Looby,  
Catherine Lee & Anne Mary

## A Trip down Memory Lane—WASHING THE PURIFICATORS

For those who remember the days when the Priest **MUST** first 'wash' the purificators. Only then could the Sacristan finish the 'washing'. The following penned in the late 1960's is the fruit of a night pondering the Chaplain's reluctance to 'wash the purificators'.



### The Curate

A curate is always a very busy priest  
Whether its Saturday, Sunday or a third class feast,  
He is kind to all his parishioners,  
Be they children, youths or aged pensioners,  
His words are music to all in desolation,  
To the troubled in mind he restores consolation.

But when the soiled linen bag appears,  
One observes his mounting fears,  
His fatherly wise parish priest,  
Sacristan, housekeeper or me  
May beg 'Father will you wash the purificators?'  
Then the pucker on his brow spells **DICTATORS!**

It is heroic to rise at two in the morning  
And go on a sick call at a moment's warning  
But, approach him at two in the afternoon  
And you'll find your request has come too soon  
He is a martyr in many ways,  
But before the 'wash tub' his nerve frays!

Martyrs of England come to his aid  
When of soap and water he feels afraid,  
And grant him the reward promised to those who fight  
Endless bliss in the land that knows no night,  
And when he is playing his harp in the realms above  
May he remember his brothers who are still at the wash tub!

**Note:** a true reflection from a parish in the Diocese of Lancaster where a Chaplain from the West of Ireland 'struggled' with 'washing the purificators'. The poem, delivered by subterfuge, caused great peals of laughter to be heard from the Curate's room. Today it is presented by Sr Brigid Mary for our enjoyment.

**Diocese of Lancaster, Curate from West of Ireland**